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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7007

BILL NUMBER: HB 1219

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 4, 2012

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Parental Initiatives for School Reorganization.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Rhoads

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: The bill establishes the following parental initiatives for school reorganization: (1) The conversion of an existing public school into a charter school; and (2) A petition to have the State Board of Education consider intervention in the school. It repeals current provisions concerning the conversion of existing public schools into charter schools.

Effective Date: July 1, 2012.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Low Performing Schools:* The number of schools that the state might have to consider for possible intervention might increase if students' parents successfully petition the State Board of Education.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: *Conversion Charter Schools:* The bill would change the procedure for establishing a conversion charter school. The bill would allow conversion of an existing public school to a charter school if:

1. The parents of at least 51% of the student's parents sign a petition requesting the conversion. The signatures must be gathered within 90 days of the first signature.
2. The school board votes to convert an existing school to a charter school.

The impact would depend on the number of conversions. To date there has been one public school that has converted to a charter school.

Background: Currently, the conversion from a public school to a charter school if all of the following apply if the school is not scheduled for closure :

1. 51% of the parents of students at the school sign a petition requesting the conversion within 90 days from the first signature.
2. The school has been placed in the lowest two accountability categories for two consecutive years.
3. The school board votes to convert an existing school within the school corporation.

If the school has been in the lowest two categories for four consecutive years the school corporation may not be the charter school sponsor. The bill would repeals these provisions.

Low Performing Schools: The bill would allow parents of 51% of a school's students to sign a petition requesting the state intervene in the school if the school has been in the lowest performance category for at least 2 years or the second lowest category for at least 3 years. The interventions could incorporate at least one of the following:

1. Merging the school with a nearby school that is in a higher category
2. Assigning a special management team to operate all or part of the school.
3. The Department's recommendations for improving the school.
4. Other options for school improvement expressed at the public hearing, including closing the school.
5. Revising the school's plan in any of the following areas:
 - a. Changes in school procedures or operations.
 - b. Professional development.
 - c. Intervention for individual teachers or administrators.

The fiscal impact is unknown. Currently, seven schools have been subject to the above consequences. For the 2012-2013 school year, there are five schools that have been assigned management teams by the State Board of Education to operate the schools, and two teams as lead partners in assisting the school corporation in improving performance.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Department of Education.

Local Agencies Affected: Local Schools.

Information Sources:

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